

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company
Docket Nos. D.T.E. 02-24 and D.T.E. 02-25
Responses to the Department's First Set of Information Requests

Request No. DTE 1-7:

Refer to Exh. FGE - Schedule JHA-1 (Gas) at 13 of 56. Please list and explain all instances where management's future plans and expectations were employed to derive the depreciation accrual rates in this filing.

Response:

Accounts wherein the average service life estimates were so influenced include:

Accounts 353.00 and 362.00, Station Equipment:

The life estimates for these accounts give consideration to the Company projections provided in response to our information request, provided in response DTE-1-16.

Account 367.00, Mains (gas):

The Company has been following a Cast Iron Main replacement program since early 1980's. The program initially started with a replacement rate of no less than 3,960 feet per year. In 2001, the Company increased the amount of Cast Iron pipe replaced annually from 3,960 feet to 10,560 feet. This projection influenced the life estimate for Mains.

Person Responsible: James H. Aikman